

Lease ok not enough

Health clinic stymied



Concerned citizens fill Supervisors' chambers on Jan. 25.

The Finance Committee of the Board of Supervisors approved unanimously a lease for a Potrero Hill mental health clinic at 1624 20th St. However, those same members recommended delay when the matter came before the full Board last Monday.

Lease approval contained a clause providing for the establishment of an advisory council to watchdog clinic operations. Finance chairman Dorothy Von Beroldingen submitted a motion asking the supervisors to put off ac-

Hill legal defense office opens

The Potrero Hill Legal Defense Office is open for business in Olivet Presbyterian Church, 400 Missouri St.

The primary function of the office will be to put people with legal problems in touch with lawyers who have promised to give legal representation on a "pay as you can" basis. Those eligible will be placed in contact with the Public Defender's office.

The LDO staff, volunteers who have received training from the National Lawyers Guild, will follow up all cases to insure that attorneys, especially public defenders, represent clients adequately.

LDO will assist in collecting witness statements and gaining own recognition releases. Staff mem-

tion on the lease until an acceptable advisory council resolution is hammered out.

The move was seconded by Finance members Robert Mendelsohn and Terry Francois.

Although the Supervisors held the clinic matter on the calendar until Feb. 8, the advisory council resolution is still subject to full public hearing before the Finance Committee. No date for that hearing has been set, and it is unlikely any will before at least Feb. 10.

When a hearing date is scheduled, residents who spoke for and against the clinic proposal should be notified.

A resolution calling for an advisory committee composed of 15 neighborhood residents with "demonstrated interest in mental health" has been drafted by the City Attorney's office. Members would be appointed by the local director of mental health services, Dr.

(Continued on back page.)

Poverty board election

The Potrero Hill Community Action Committee plans to elect a new board of directors Feb. 2.

Hill residents can cast their ballots from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the following places:

- * I.M. Scott School, 22nd and Tennessee Streets;
- * Daniel Webster School, 20th and Missouri Streets;
- * Starr King School, Wisconsin and Connecticut Streets;
- * Olivet Church, 19th and Missouri Streets;
- * Little Red Door, 18th and Missouri Streets;
- * Brotherhood office, 23rd and Wisconsin Streets;
- * Potrero Terrace office, 25th and Connecticut Streets;
- * M&M Food Market, 23rd and DeHaro Streets;
- * Hilltop Food Market, 22nd and Carolina Streets.

According to a spokesman for the CAC, any resident of Potrero Hill is eligible to vote, regardless of income. However, as this election is for adult members of the board, only those 21 and older may vote. Youth hold their own elections for their

(Continued on back page.)

New school site administrator named

The San Francisco Unified School District announced last week the appointment of Thomas Sammon, former Pelton Junior High School principal, as the new site administrator for the Potrero Hill Junior High School.

Sammon's task during the next six months will be to establish contacts with the community and with its help design curriculum and special programs for the school.

In addition, the School District must redraw boundaries and feeder patterns. Ralph Kauer, assistant superintendent of secondary schools, admits minority enrollment from the announced boundaries would exceed the quota allowable under integration regulations.

Officials stressed that Sammon has not been appointed permanent Potrero principal. He will be considered along with other candidates for the post.

The school had originally been slated to open this week. Construction delays caused postponement until next fall, when the school will open with both seventh and eighth grades.

Sammon's transfer from Pelton was one of the administrative moves which touched off student protests last week.

Usual pollution evident in Cove

Potrero shore spared oil mess

Potrero Hill's waterfront was largely spared the scourge of the Standard Oil slick which recently blackened the waters of San Francisco Bay and the ocean beaches north and south of the Golden Gate.

During the week following the spill THE VIEW made several spot checks at various points along Potrero's waterfront where a resident can get a glimpse of the water.

A number of small globs of the tar-like oil were

seen in the vicinity of China Basin. Traces were also spotted around the Mission Rock area, near the Santa Fe ferry slip. Farther south at Central Basin and Warm Water Cove no sign of the Standard Oil spill could be seen. However, industrial pollution at these locations was all too evident.

At Warm Water Cove, adjacent to the PG&E power plant and Sheedy Drayage at the end of 24th Street, oil was seeping into the water, presumably from nearby industry.

In addition to the oil, which formed a small slick next to the outflow from the PG&E plant, a green substance was trickling down a short water course into the cove waters. Its source was impossible to determine.

After the big oil spill, as hundreds of volunteers worked around the clock to save birds and clean beaches, environmental experts noted that, while the Standard spill was certainly a disaster, every year - day by day - an e-



Traces of Standard Oil slick foul China Basin.

qual amount of pollutants seep into the Bay. Sources are waterside industries, storm sewers, small oil spills and ships, just to mention a few.

Anyone who cares to witness this disaster can take himself down to Warm Water Cove to see the oil,

the sewage, the garbage and the tires which have turned one of the Hill's few points of Bay access into a veritable cesspool.

Yet people still fish there, and still pull 'em in. Wonder how much mercury those bass contain?

Southern Crossing meets growing opposition

A resolution opposing immediate construction of the Southern Crossing is expected to be passed today by the Board of Supervisors.

Last week the Streets and Transportation Committee of the Board recommended adoption of the Mendelsohn-Pelosi resolution, which would put off any action on the India Basin-East Bay link until Bay

Area Rapid Transit could be evaluated.

Committee members Terry Francois and Robert Gonzales argued in behalf of outright opposition to the bridge.

They said some \$500 million budgeted for the project would be better spent on rapid transit, a means of transportation which would lessen air pol-

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Hill House

Home Rule

Earl Cruser

Policy-makers of the United Bay Area Crusade are determined to make radical changes in the way \$17 million of voluntary contributions are distributed. The changes have already effected the Neighborhood House and are likely to effect it even more in the future.

United funds across the nation have finally responded to demands that they fund programs which serve those in need rather than the middle class. Last year for the first time, UBAC designated \$400,000 specifically for new and special programs, many of which had grown out of organizing efforts among the poor.

Not only is UBAC beginning to set social priorities, but it is also sold on the concept of administrative efficiency through centralization.

As to the immediate effects on the Neighborhood House, the only UBAC agency on the Hill at the present time, the annual allocation announced for 1971 is \$33,843. This represents a \$1,400 reduction from the allocation of 1970.

Although full reasons for this cut have not been revealed, a few things are beginning to come clear. In the first place, it does not appear that the volunteer panel who made the recommendations intended that the Neighborhood House should receive a reduced allocation. The cut came about in the later stages of the largely mysterious UBAC funding process.

A second reason for the 5 percent reduction appears to result from the panel's feeling that other neighborhoods in the City and in the East Bay were more in need of services and support than Potrero Hill.

However, the rather slight reduction in annual allocation is likely to effect the Neighborhood House much less in the long run than the other UBAC action urging all seven neighborhood centers in the city to merge.

There is the distinct danger that the decision-making process of the Neighborhood House will be less open to the influence of residents than in the past. This move toward centralization is coming about just at a time when "decentralization" and "community control" are the words of the day.

Few will deny that many of the changes UBAC is putting into operation are not only good but long overdue. Few can agree, however, with the secrecy, the suddenness and the sheer incompetency by which it is seeking to bring changes about.

Nor is it clear that large organizations built on a business model, controlled by those who hold the purse strings and managed by bureaucrats, is the best way to deliver social services to real people in real neighborhoods. In fact, there is a lot of evidence that this is precisely the way not to do it.

Hills and Dales

Standardization

Bill Dawson

Another month has passed. We have been rained upon and fogged in. Now we're surrounded by oil.

If somebody had lit a match by the shoreline we could have become the biggest birthday cake this side of Mike Todd's - with candles not even Ronald Reagan could blow out.

If your bath water is black before you use it, you can be sure you're not bathing in your drinking water. Drinking water is brown.

If anybody can come up with a substitute for oil (bio-degradable), I'm sure Standard Oil would be interested. At the moment they are about as popular as the good fairy on Halloween.

If their tankers had carried scotch, the public image would be better. But then we would have needed a lot of ice cubes.

After touring the coastline from the Marina to Ocean Beach, I found that most of the youngsters we used to label "Hippie" were the ones doing a major portion of the clean-up. The daily press now refers to them as "hard working young people." I hope we don't return them to their "Hippie" status when all the work is done.

The city unity involved in this clean-up project sort of makes one wonder why a disaster has to occur before we can get people to pull together.

It's amazing how alike people are when dressed in nothing but levis and oil.

Maybe we should start a new slogan: "Dirty we stand, Clean we fall."

The powers that be had better take a little note of relationships during this crisis.



Afro-Haitian dance

Bernard Stowers leads his Afro-Haitian Dance class which will meet at new times beginning Feb. 1.

Registration will be on Thursday, Feb. 4. The classes will meet on Mondays, 6-8 p.m. and Thursdays, 6:30-9 p.m.

Calendar of Hill Events

WEBSTER-SCOTT

Daniel Webster-I.M. Scott schools will hold their founder's day program Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Daniel Webster auditorium, 465 Missouri St. The ESEA parent advisory committee will meet Feb. 17 at 1 p.m. at Daniel Webster.

STARR KING

Starr King will hold its founder's day program Feb. 3 at 10 a.m. in the school multipurpose room, 1215 Carolina St. A Black American program will be held Feb. 18 at 10 a.m. Third grade classes will perform.

ST. STEPHEN'S

St. Stephen's Baptist Church, 800 22nd St., will give a testimonial banquet for the Rev. John C. Bee Sr., Feb. 7 following the 11 a.m. service. Rev. Bee will celebrate his sixth year with the church Feb. 7 to 14.

ST. TERESA'S

St. Teresa's Home and School Association will meet Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the church hall at 19th and Connecticut Streets.

CITIZENS IMPROVEMENT

Citizens Improvement Association will meet

Feb. 9 and 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Starr King School multi-purpose room, 1215 Carolina St.

PATRICK HENRY

Patrick Henry PFA will meet Feb. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium, 693 Vermont St.

SOCIALETTES

A Valentine's Day dance featuring The Playmates will be sponsored by the Socialettes, Feb. 13 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Olivet Church, 400 Missouri St. Admission is \$1. Refreshments will be sold.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

The Potrero Hill Neighborhood House will hold its first Family Recreation Night, Wednesday, Feb. 3, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the House, 953 DeHaro St.

The new program will include activities of interest to both parent and child, among them, silk screening, candlemaking, photography and a food demonstration.

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Sister Kathleen explains new teaching techniques.

Sister Kathleen guides innovative parish school

Sister Kathleen Healy, who for three years has been principal at St. Teresa's school on the Hill, was honored last month by several hundred friends and family on her 25th anniversary as a teacher.

"It doesn't feel like 25 years. Time seems to go so quickly," she said.

Born and raised in the Richmond District, Sister Kathleen is a member of the Presentation Order, along with three of her four sisters, daughters of William and Hanna Healy.

She has spent all but nine of her teaching years in San Francisco, and came to St. Teresa's in 1968 as principal.

Given her choice of several schools, she chose St. Teresa's, preferring it to a school in a wealthier neighborhood. "I really believe in a mixed economic and racial community because it brings real wealth and richness to a school," she explained.

In 1968 St. Teresa's had to vacate its building at 19th and Pennsylvania Streets. It was a difficult year, but one of opportu-

ity as well. A new building was erected at 455 Arkansas Street.

Sister Kathleen taught for one year at the old St. Teresa's in 1957. Things were very different then.

"I didn't care for it. The community of sisters was isolated from the neighborhood. It was frustrating," she mused.

"The new school is quite different. The team teaching arrangement has made contact with the community much easier. I much prefer it."

Sister Kathleen and her fellow teachers helped in the design of the present school. "We tried to shape the building to fit our approach to education. The architects discarded many of our proposals, but gave us a design in which we could put our education ideas to work," she pointed out.

Anyone accustomed to the traditional school, with box-like classrooms opening onto a hallway, might have difficulty recognizing St. Teresa's as a school.

The main floor is one big room which can be divided into varying spaces through the use of portable partitions. The partitions have a black board on one side and storage space on the other.

In line with the building design, the students are no longer divided by grade, but are grouped in clusters, which are in turn divided into teams.

'In New England Winter'

Tension explodes on stage

The Grassroots Experience Theatre Company is currently presenting Ed Bullins' soulful play, "In New England Winter."

A young black man relives two scenes which show Bullins' intensely perceptive observations of the warmth, violence, comedy, and irony of ghetto life and characters.

Ably directed by Vern Henderson, the actors powerfully portray very real people. Many human types are contrasted. The vulnerable, yet forgiving Cliff (R. Stribling Griffin), who accepts his brother's betrayal, confronts the emotionless, vindictive Steve (Samuel J. Bankhead), who is finally broken down by his own passion for form and order.

Bullins uses secondary characters to balance the clash between the protagonists. The clownish antics of Chuckie (Donald Ray Guinn) and the tragi-comic interaction of Oscar (John Henry Doyle) and Carrie (Wilberta Breedy) relieve the tension created by Steve's relentless rehearsal of the details of his future, Crook's (Danny Glover)sly, evil manipulation, Bum-mie's (Earnest Gassaway) sudden death and poor Liz's (Donna M. De Coudreaux) insane ravings.

The technical aspects of the production were smooth. Especially effective was the use of music fading in and out between dialogue, increasing the impact of confrontation scenes and intensifying the agony of interminable waiting in sticky, Southern heat.

Final performances of "In New England Winter" will be held Feb. 4, 5 and 6 at the Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St.

With this arrangement a variety of activities can go on at once. At any moment of the day one group of students may be seated around a teacher, while others read, assist each other with lessons, or listen to individual tapes in the learning center.

This freedom helps each child progress according to his own ability, and the absence of walls and doors facilitate contact between teachers, aides and students.

According to Sister Kathleen, the children like the new methods. "They find the atmosphere here very warm. It doesn't look like a school when you enter, and maybe this is what these children need."

"The school has become a place where they are loved and accepted; it has the feeling of one big family."

As well as being an advocate of freedom in teaching, Sister Kathleen also believes in community and parent participation.

"The job is only half done if parents fail to work with their children in the home," she said.

After 25 years teaching, Sister Kathleen's enthusiasm hasn't diminished. "I enjoy teaching and working with people, but in particular I love children," she said, smiling.



Sherry Zahn, Ernest Gassay and Rex Griffin in the hold-up scene in Ed Bullin's play, "In New England Winter".

Julian Theatre wins grant for new plays

The Julian Theatre of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House was named one of 22 outstanding experimental acting troupes in the nation last week by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency in Washington, D. C.

The award, the group's second in two years, is based on the Julian's professional standards, community orientation with low ticket prices, performances of new plays and training workshops.

Included with the award is a \$2,500 grant, which requires the theatre to raise an equal amount from local contributions.

With last year's grant and local matching funds, the Julian performed several untried plays and underwrote the formation of the Grassroot Experience Theatre Company, an all-Black run company.

During the coming year

the two troupes will use the federal funds to produce additional new plays, to encourage more neighborhood residents to participate in and attend productions and to bring the plays on tour to schools. A free performance of each play for Potrero Hill people is planned.

Black workshop play to open

The Grassroot Experience Theatre Company will premiere the first full-length play to come out of the San Francisco Black Writers Workshop, Feb. 25.

Jack Tolson's play "Irony?" will be directed by John Henry Doyle.


"Irony?" will play at the Neighborhood House, for four weeks.

Tickets are \$2 general admission, \$1.50 for students and unemployed. To reserve tickets, call 647-8098.

Candlemaking

Classes in handcrafted candlemaking begin February in the downstairs kitchen of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House.

Class fee is \$1.50 an hour, plus materials. Candlemaker Bob Lashbrook will arrange hours to suit the individual. For information call 826-8080.



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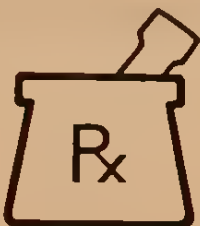
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Selvidge keeps law fees low

Every morning Robert Selvidge attorney at law, "commutes" down the hallway of his flat at 20th and Connecticut to his law office.

While the big money in law is down in the Financial District, Selvidge prefers the slower pace of his front room. From there he provides legal assistance to people at prices they can afford.

"Because I do my own typing and use the law library down at Hastings, I can represent a client in a divorce case, for instance, at about one-half the going rate and still make a comfortable living," Selvidge explained.

He studied general law at Hastings College of Law in San Francisco and has



been practicing for about a year.

Selvidge tells about a young man charged with grand theft because he was picked up in a stalled car which turned out to be stolen.

"The guy should have been charged with joy-riding, but they tried to get him on two felonies. I got the charges dropped for insufficient evidence."

Selvidge, who has handled some drug use and possession cases, says, "The present laws are addressed to a symptom rather than the underlying problem."

"I hear Nebraska recently passed a law which sentenced marijuana offenders to a seven-day intensive anti-drug education program. That's in the right direction."

"Locally, a guilty plea to possession-misdemeanor will usually result in probation and a suspended sentence," Selvidge said.

He has been on the Hill since last January, and his is the only law office in the neighborhood.

In addition to private practice, he does volunteer work for La Raza Legal Defense Office and is one of the attorneys on call for the Hill's new Legal Defense Office.

A Planned Parenthood case concerning parental consent for abortions for minors, on which Selvidge did research, will be argued before the Supreme Court this week.

Selvidge lives and works at 1540 20th St.

New community legal defense aid

(Continued from page 1.) bers will help the O.R. project at the Hall of Justice collect information necessary for release without bail.

Although there will be no bail funds available, LDO will contact friends and relatives of persons in custody in an effort to raise needed bail.

It will also organize an on-going legal education program for defendants and members of the general community.

In addition to legal defense aid, the office will advise men of draft age about their rights under the Selective Service law. This program is a continuation and expansion of the draft counseling formerly available at the Neighborhood House.

LDO plans to keep its office open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Until a permanent phone is installed, people in need of legal services may call 863-5558.

EOC board of directors election on Hill tomorrow

(Continued from page 1.) positions on the board.

Twelve positions are open. Three positions are from Potrero Terrace. Three are from Potrero Terrace Annex. Two are from the "Dogpatch," and two are from the remainder of the Hill. There will be one at-large position from the projects and the rest of the Hill.

According to a statement released by the CAC, the elections are an opportunity for "all groups and individuals to join in forming a board of directors who will represent the needs of the poor and low income people on Potrero Hill."

Urging people to "come together in a united front," the statement reiterates the CAC's demand that Potrero Hill be considered a separate target area. This demand has been the central issue in the Hill's poverty program for more than a year.

To date Potrero Hill is still part of the Central City target area.

At press time, there was no word on the status of the several programs Potrero Hill submitted last month to SFEOC. February 1 was the announced date for the beginning of new programs under the "New Thrust" effort.

Meanwhile, the CAC has begun its survey of Potrero Hill's low income population. The survey is supposed to help establish priorities for programs.

Canned ecology

Daniel Webster School will help our ecology by collecting aluminum cans, etc. Residents are asked to bring them to the school, 465 Missouri St., on Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon.

The basic questionnaire seeks information on employment, income, housing, child care, consumer needs, education and health. The survey will continue through February.

CIA committee to survey project repair needs

The Citizens Improvement Committee recently appointed a survey committee, the first step in the Housing Authority's modernization program for Potrero Terrace.

The committee will conduct door-to-door interviews to ascertain the repair priorities of Terrace residents.

To date the modernization effort has produced only a widely disliked fence, some grass between buildings and poor door locks.

The CIA hopes to assist the Housing Authority in the study of bids and selection of contractors once priorities are determined.

Plans are to have job openings posted in the project office at 1095 Connecticut St.

The survey committee needs additional members. All Potrero Hill residents are welcome. See VIEW Calendar for time and place of CIA meetings this month.

Southern Crossing runs into wall of opposition

(Continued from page 1.) lution and congestion caused by auto traffic.

The Potrero Hill Residents and Homeowners Council testified against the bridge proposal, noting the damage such construction would do to neighborhood values and the general ecology.

Council vice president Elaine Sundahl stressed that the Potrero Hill community has been on record against the bridge since it was first proposed five years ago.

"The long-range effects of this bridge could have greater impact on our community than any other matter before the Board," Ms. Sundahl said.

"Five years ago all of our Hill organizations were out in force to oppose this highway expansion scheme. Where are they now when we really need them?"

"Scores of ecology minded young people have moved into our neighborhood, but we don't see them joining in the fight to stop the Southern Crossing," Ms. Sundahl complained.

The Division of Highways, the Redevelopment Agency, the Chamber of Commerce, the Down Town Association and representatives of organized labor appeared to outline the economic advantages of bridge construction.

The opposition was led by the Sierra Club, contingents from the Richmond district and other conservation groups.

Bridge proponents, who have the backing of the State highway lobby and oil interests, say the project would speed freeway traffic, provide hundreds of jobs and act as a spur to the sagging economy.

Advisory council clause keeps clinic in committee

(Continued from page 1.) Francis J. Curry.

The advisory board clause was introduced by Mendelsohn at the Jan. 20 finance committee hearing, where a large number of residents turned out to speak pro and con on the clinic proposal.

Clinic supporters, who outnumbered opponents by about five to one, were elated when the lease was approved. Most were completely surprised when the advisory board rider became the cause for extended delay. No one had objected to the provision when it was introduced in committee.

Primary opposition to the clinic came from the speakers representing the Potrero Hill Boosters and Merchants Association, none of whom bothered to attend the second meeting before the full Board.

Booster president Charles Peterson did, however, file a letter with Board president Dianne Feinstein requesting that the clinic decision be delayed pending further hearings.

His letter claimed that "the majority of people residing on Potrero Hill are unconditionally opposed to this clinic."

Eighteen people spoke in favor of the clinic, including representatives from such different groups as the San Francisco Association for Mental Health, the Neighborhood House, the Community Health Alliance, St. Teresa's Church, the Brotherhood, Citizens Improvement Association and the Community Action Committee.

The six residents who spoke against the clinic were all listed as Booster members.

Dr. Gilbert Weisman, clinic medical director, expressed disappointment with the new delay, as did many neighborhood residents. Some felt the council was proposed for the express purpose of stalling the clinic opening.

A few accused finance committee members of double dealing -- voting in favor of lease approval only because they knew subsequent action would prevent its opening from actually taking place.

Elaine Sundahl, vice president of the Residents and Homeowners Council, which approved the clinic proposal in principle, believes the advisory council would provide a needed check on clinic operations. "Opening a clinic is pointless unless we can keep it open," she explained.

"Clinic opponents feel strongly on this matter and will be looking for every minor infraction as an excuse to close the clinic."

Ms. Sundahl, representing the Committee on Community Concern of the Neighborhood House, sent a letter to health department officials suggesting the advisory council.

As approved, the clinic lease stipulates that no drug or alcoholic cases will be treated at the clinic.

Ms. Babette Drefke, a Booster who spoke against the clinic, expressed distrust of clinic organizers. "We all know it will be a drug center, no matter what they say now," she said.

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